

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Conwy and Denbighshire Public Services Boards Joint Scrutiny and Overview Committee</b>
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> February, 2022</b>
<b>Lead Member / Officer</b>	<b>Nicola Kneale, Denbighshire County Council (Strategic Planning Manager)</b>
<b>Report author</b>	<b>Hannah Edwards, Conwy County Borough Council (PSB Support Officer)</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Conwy and Denbighshire Well-being Assessment 2022</b>

## **1. What is the report about?**

- 1.1 The report describes the process that's been undertaken to refresh the Well-being Assessment since its first launch in 2017. Please see Appendix A for an Executive Summary of the Well-being Assessment. The full draft Well-being Assessment can be found on the Conwy and Denbighshire Public Services Board (PSB) website - [Well-being Assessment \(conwyanddenbighshirepsb.org.uk\)](http://conwyanddenbighshirepsb.org.uk).
- 1.2 This report provides the opportunity to review the key findings from the Assessment of Local Well-being and make recommendations as part of the consultation process.
- 1.3 The Assessment will be used to inform a number of long term strategic plans, including the next Conwy & Denbighshire Public Services Board (PSB) Well-being Plan 2023-28.

## **2. What is the reason for making this report?**

- 2.1 To present the draft well-being assessment to the Joint PSB Scrutiny and Overview Committee as part of the consultation process.

## **3. What are the Recommendations?**

- 3.1 To receive and support the report.

3.2 To respond to the consultation questions listed below –

- i. Do you agree with the findings in the Well-being Assessment?
- ii. Is there anything we need to change?
- iii. Is there anything we've missed?
- iv. Are you likely to make use of the Well-being Assessment and its contents?
- v. Any other comments or ideas on the Well-being Assessment?

## 4. Report details

- 4.1. The [Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015](#) sets out a statutory requirement for each PSB to produce an Assessment of Local Well-being that “considers the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in its area.” This assessment is different from traditional needs assessments in that it should also look to identify key assets in an area as well as areas of need and gaps in service provision. It should look to identify opportunities as well as the threats, both now and in the future.
- 4.2. Work has been on-going with PSB partners across Conwy and Denbighshire since January 2021 to review the existing Conwy & Denbighshire PSB Well-being Assessment. The journey has not started with pre-conceived ideas or abstract data analysis, but with extensive engagement both with local communities and the staff who work in the different public sector organisations.
- 4.3. To describe all aspects of well-being would be an enormous task, so the Well-being Assessment aims to provide only an outline of the more strategic issues affecting the counties of Conwy and Denbighshire. We have grouped what people were saying into around 60 strategic topics and looked into the data and available supporting research papers to see where there is sound evidence to support the perceptions and feelings. Each topic provides analysis about: the situation now; how the current situation compares with the past; what the future looks like; what people have said about the topic, and key questions and areas needing further research.
- 4.4. In particular we have tried to consider the implications of each topic on the well-being of the individual and how it contributes to the 7 well-being goals set out in the Act. By undertaking research across a number of topics aligned to the seven national well-

being goals, we have identified a series of cross-cutting topics of prominence across the counties of Conwy and Denbighshire. These are listed in Appendix A, the Executive Summary.

- 4.5. The whole Well-being Assessment is a strong, broad body of research that illustrates a current and anticipated future picture of Conwy and Denbighshire with reference to anticipated opportunities and challenges.
- 4.6. The information contained in the assessment will be housed on the Conwy & Denbighshire PSB's website in a Wikipedia-style format, as per its previous iteration. This format has previously been praised for its accessibility, ability to be refreshed, and therefore its overall capacity to be a valuable, practical planning asset for public, private and third/grassroots sectors in the county, therefore the format is retained.
- 4.8. Based on consultation feedback we will make amendments and publish a final version in April 2022. Once the Well-being Assessment has been approved by the PSB, the Board will work on developing a new Well-being Plan. We will run a consultation on the Well-being Plan before it is published in 2023.

## **5. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

- 5.1. Various community engagement events have been held across Conwy and Denbighshire to hear community views and inform the assessment. In addition online surveys were promoted and all public organisations were asked to submit anonymised engagement feedback undertaken in the last 2 years in order that we could learn from community comments and themes. Further information on the engagement process will be discussed in the next item.

## **6. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

- 6.1. There is a risk that this valuable resource isn't used to its full potential by partners. In addition to consultation, we will therefore devise a programme of publicity to ensure

colleagues from all sectors are aware of the Assessment and where to find it, and how it can aid informed decision-making.

- 6.2. There is a risk that this is not kept up-to-date by partners, thus undermining the assessment's usefulness, and also meaning that a large scale review will be required in the future. Regular communication between PSB support officers, supported with clear direction from the PSB should mitigate against this risk.
- 6.3. Since the production of the first Well-being Assessment in 2017 research capacity within teams in both Conwy and Denbighshire has significantly reduced. Despite this the teams have produced a high quality strategic document on the current position of both counties. If there were more research and engagement capacity in the public sector, there would be the potential to further strengthen the Assessment by looking into weaker areas and any gaps in knowledge, and better understanding the determinants of inequality in terms of well-being.

## **7. Power to make the decision**

- 7.1. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- 7.2. Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 and Section 3.3 of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Terms of Reference.